

**City of Chula Vista
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes**

Thursday - 6:30 p.m.
Civic Center Bldg 300 Cnf Rm B129

March 18, 2010
276 Fourth Avenue

Meeting called to order by Chair Guy Chambers at 6:32 p.m.

Staff Present: Buck Martin, Director of Recreation
Janice Kluth, Redevelopment Agency

Guests: Ahmad Solomon, SDG&E Representative

1. Roll Call/Motion to Excuse

Members Present: Commissioner Rios, Commissioner Garza, Commissioner Serrano (arrived at 6:40 pm), Commissioner Chambers, Commissioner Vogel

Members Absent: Commissioner Cien-Mayer, Commissioner Scott

MSC Garza/Rios to excuse Commissioner Scott (5-0-0-2)

2. Oral Communications – None

3.
 - a. **Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2010** – Table to next meeting.
 - b. **Approval of Minutes of November 19, 2009** – Table to the next meeting.
 - c. **Approval of Minutes of July 16, 2009** – MSC Rios/Garza to approve minutes (Vote – 7-0-0-2 with Scott and Cien-Mayer absent).

4. Information on the Main Street Substation Screening Project – Ms. Kluth informed the Commission that the City and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) had been communicating about improvements to the existing substation located on Albany and Main Street.

Mr. Ahmad Solomon of SDG&E informed the Commission that through an operating agreement between the City and SDG&E, improvements of the external appearance of the power substation would be accomplished. Mr. Solomon also noted that presentations had been made to Otay Elementary School and community groups from the area.

Pictures of three different types walls were presented to the Commission and discussion was held on the functionality of each option. It was the consensus of SDG&E and staff to implement a possible public art component into this project, which could include tiles

painted/decorated by students from Otay Elementary and participants from Otay Recreation Center.

The Commission liked the idea of having a public art component added to this project as this could serve as a deterrent to vandalism.

Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) asked about the height of the wall.

Mr. Solomon responded that the wall is 9-feet in height.

Commissioner Serrano asked about the possibility of having the substation enclosed because of its height.

Mr. Solomon responded that substations could be enclosed; however, SDG&E chooses not to enclose them due to the high cost of enclosing and significant greenhouse emissions. The substation is approximately 35-40 feet in height, and could be lowered; however, parking to the school and recreation facility would be severely impacted.

Commissioner Chambers asked if the upgrades included lighting for safety/security.

Mr. Solomon noted that he was not sure, and would look into this information.

Ms. Kluth asked if a mural could be implemented on the wall.

Mr. Solomon responded that approval would need to be obtained from SDG&E; however, he knows that there is flexibility in an artwork component as long as the City follows guidelines/parameters of SDG&E. He also noted he would send that information to Ms. Kluth.

The Commission thanked Mr. Solomon and Ms. Kluth for their time and presentation.

5. Unfinished Business – None

6. New Business – None

7. Written Communications - None

8. Staff Comments -

- a. **Recreation** – Mr. Martin reviewed the monthly Parks and Recreation Commission report and also informed the Commission that the Nature Center is now being operated by the non-profit group Friends of Nature Center and discussed current programs (camps, educational classes, etc) that are going on. He informed the Commission that he would have Margarita e-mail information to them about the Nature Center. Mr. Martin also informed the Commission that the City was approached by citizens that desire to develop a sports alliance committee made up of community members and form a 501 (c) 3 foundation. Mr. Martin also talked about the 70-acre park; the retirement of Kathy Wigginton, Recreation

Supervisor III of the Norman Park Center; current budget situation and future budget situation.

- b. **Public Works** – Mr. Martin informed the Commission that San Miguel Ranch Park would have “soft opening” on June 2010 after the elections.
8. **Commissioner Comments** – Commissioner Garza requested that that he would like an Info Item regarding the Youth Sports Council (YSC) at the May 20, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. He requested that the Info Item/Presentation include the importance of why the YSC was formed, Allocation Process, etc.
- Mr. Martin responded and suggested that the YSC president attend as well as, Ted Nelson from Recreation.
- Commissioner Garza also requested a monthly or bi-monthly report from Public Works/Parks that identifies status of parks i.e., which park is currently under construction and when park is due to be open to the public; parks/fields closed for maintenance; parks/fields that are reserved (not available); etc.
- Commissioner Rios noted the need for Speed Soccer for adults at Eucalyptus Park.
- Commissioner Vogel is looking forward to April Pools Day event this year.

9. **Other**

Meeting Adjournment at 7:45 p.m. to the regularly scheduled meeting of March 20, 2010.